

Mechanical Q&A 2009

Attention: • Denotes a new question!

★ Denotes a revised/revisited question.

February 2009

General:

1) (Q) *What does a contractor/permit holder have to supply for an inspection?*

(A) Section 107.2 of the NC Administrative Code states that it is the duty of the permit holder “to provide access to and means for inspection of the work for any inspections that are required by this code.”

2)• (Q) *An existing home with a package unit, installed prior to the requirement for lintels where the duct penetrates the foundation wall is being replaced with equipment and duct of the same size. Would a lintel have to be installed at this time?*

(A) No, provided there is no increase in size of the foundation opening.

Gas Piping:

1) (Q) *May a contractor use the merchant coupling provided with each stick of gas pipe, to assemble the permitted gas piping system?*

(A) The NC Gas Code does not prohibit the use of all thread merchant couplings.

2) (Q) *How many gas tests are required for a single gas pipe installation?*

(A) The Code would require two tests. One before you cover the work and one on final inspection. We require an additional test if you would like “temporary heat” which would result in a total of three.

3) (Q) *Does gas piping have to be steel where the piping terminates at the meter?*

(A) The Code does not require a steel termination, but many gas utility providers (Piedmont Natural Gas) will refuse to connect to CSST or copper piping.

4)• (Q) *May the valve for a free standing range be placed behind the range?*

(A) Yes. The valve is for servicing and does not have to be placed where it can be accessed without moving the appliance.

5)• (Q) *Does the Code require a cut-off to be placed at the base of decorative gas yard lights?*

(A) Yes! The light is considered an appliance and would require a cut-off within 6 feet and accessible (box/vault).

Duct:

1) (Q) *What does the new 2009 Energy Code require for duct insulation?*

(A) Section 403. of the NC Energy Code states residential supplies and returns shall be R8 in unconditioned areas. Duct running through the web of floor truss systems may be R6 to limit duct compression. Duct installed between conditioned floors need not be insulated provided there is no condensation. Commercial supplies and returns shall be R5 in unconditioned areas. Commercial outside duct shall be R8.